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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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*Rosalie A. Centeno*  
Rosalie A. Centeno Secretary

In the Application of Klaus Funk

Ser.No.: 10/540,614

Filed: June 23, 2005

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THERMALLY TREATING DISK-SHAPED SUBSTRATES

Customer Number: 30996

Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

- 1) DE 199 05 524
- 2) US 2002/0116836
- 3) WO 02/090222
- 4) WO 00/61474
- 5) JP 11301832
- 6) US 5,810,155
- 7) WO 03/076313
- 8) US 4,958,061
- 9) US 2002/0102098

- 10) US 6,410,888
- 11) WO 00/46840
- 12) US 6,284,051
- 13) US 6,717,112 (corresponds to DE 199 36 081)
- 14) JP 59215718
- 15) JP 61001017
- 16) Article, "Holding characteristics of....." –Matsuo
- 17) Article, "A Multi-Transducer Near....." –Amano
- 18) DE 199 16 872
- 19) DE 36 08 783

Reference 1 is discussed in the instant specification for this application on page 2.

References 2 – 5 have been cited in the International Search Report and are submitted in order to provide the Examiner with easy access to said references.

References 6-17 and are all in the English language and therefore need no further discussion as to their relevance. In accordance with United States Patent and Trademark practice, it is no longer necessary to enclose copies of U.S. Patents.

Reference 18, DE 199 16 872, discloses an invention that relates to a device for the non-contact storage, i.e. keeping, notably of contact-sensitive flat components. Said device is characterized by sound generating means for producing stationary levitation sound waves which are suitable for suspending at least one component in an approximately horizontal holding plane in a selected energy node of the sound waves. The sound generating means are arranged in such a way that the edges of the component extend into approximately half the active zone of the sound-emitting surfaces of the sound generating means.

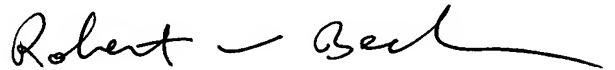
Reference 19, DE 36 08 783, discloses an invention that relates to a gas-phase epitaxial method in which the semiconductor wafers are caused to rotate during the deposition. The essence of the invention is that the support body for the semiconductor wafers is caused to rotate by a directional gas jet. Furthermore, the support body itself is preferably held in a floating manner on a gas bearing.

Copies of the listed documents, with the exception of any US Patent references, are submitted herewith along with the form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Becker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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RWB/rac  
Enclosures

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 30996		<b>Application Number</b>	10/540,614
		<b>Filing Date</b>	June 23, 2005
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Klaus Funk
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket No.	MAT-3633

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent Number Pub. Number	Issue Date Pub. Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1	2002/0116836	8/29/2002	Morad et al			2/11/2002
	6	5,810,155	9/22/1998	Hashimoto et al			6/25/1997
	8	4,958,061	9/18/1990	Wakabayashi et al			6/27/1989
	9	2002/0102098	8/1/2002	Camm et al			12/4/2001
	10	6,410,888	6/25/2002	Pan			4/30/2001
	12	6,284,051	9/4/2001	Fidelman			5/27/1999
	13	6,717,112	4/6/2004	Probst			7/31/2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
	1	DE 199 05 524	21 Sep 2000	Germany			X
	3	WO 02/090222	14 Nov 2002	WIPO			X
	4	WO 00/61474	19 Oct 2000	WIPO			X
	5	JP 11301832	02 Nov 1999	Japan			X
	7	WO 03/076313	18 Sep 2003	WIPO			X
	11	WO 00/46840	10 Aug 2000	WIPO			X
	14	JP 59215718	23 May 2005	Japan			X
	15	JP 61001017	13 Jun 1984	Japan			X
	18	DE 199 16 872	14 Apr 1999	Germany			X
	19	DE 36 08 783	17 Sep 1987	Germany			X

OTHER PRIOR ART & NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	
	16	Article "Holding characteristics of...." - Matsuo
	17	Article "A Multi-Transducer Newr " -Amano

Examiner		Date	
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7/18/05